

## Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 /106 W  
----- 003072

R 311100Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3076

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USINT BAGHDAD

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2282

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PINT KU

SUBJECT: KUWAIT OIL MINISTER STRENGTHENS POSITION

REF: KUWAIT 2048

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. SIYASSA REPORTED MAY 27 THAT GOK HAS DECIDED TO HAVE MINISTER  
OF OIL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OIL COMPANIES OPERATING HERE  
AS WELL AS ALL OTHER OIL ACTIVITIES INVOLVING REGIONAL AND  
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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. IN KEEPING WITH THIS DECISION,

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF KUWAIT OIL, GAS AND ENERGY COMPANY (KOGEC) HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR RESIGNATIONS TO THE PRIME MINISTER.  
END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH GOK ITSELF HAS NOT FORMALLY CONFIRMED SIYASSA STORY, WE UNDERSTAND IT IS CORRECT. THUS, OIL MINISTER KAZEMI, AFTER FOUR MONTHS OF MANEUVERING, APPEARS TO HAVE ESTABLISHED HIS PRIMACY IN KUWAIT'S OIL BUREACRACY. IN PROCESS KOGEC'S STATUS IS UNCERTAIN, AND IT NOT CLEAR WHO WILL BECOME INVOLVED WITH IT OR WHAT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE. KAZEMI HAS NOW DONE HALF THE JOB OF ASSURING HIS DOMINANCE IN OIL AFFAIRS BY ASSERTING HIS AUTHORITY OVER THE MINISTRY AND KOGEC. HOWEVER, HE WILL STILL HAVE TO COMPETE WITH FINANCE MINISTER ATEEQI AND OTHERS WHO EITHER DISAGREE WITH HIS POLICIES OR SIMPLY DO NOT LIKE HIM. IN THIS CONNECTION, THERE MAY BE SOME WHO HAD BEEN GIVEN IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER KOGEC WHO MAY NOW BE SOMEWHAT VINDICTIVE HAVING BEEN SQUEEZED OUT BY KAZEMI.

4. ON BALANCE, IT NOW APPEARS KAZEMI WILL REMAIN IN THE CABINET, AND PROBABLY BECOME MORE ASSERTIVE. HE CAN APPEAR STRONGER IN PARLIAMENT, IN OPEC, AND IN PUBLIC, HOWEVER, HIS POWER WILL CONTINUE TO BE LIMITED BY THE DEGREE TO WHICH ATEEQI AND OTHERS CAN PREVAIL WHEN DISAGREEMENTS EXIST. THIS SUGGESTS THE PRIME MINISTER'S OWN POWER IS ENHANCED, SINCE HE WILL BE THE ARBITER OVER COMPETING INDIVIDUALS IN HIS CABINET.  
MAU

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, POLITICAL LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KUWAIT OIL MINISTER STRENGTHENS POSITION  
**TAGS:** ENRG, PINT, KU, (KAZEMI, ABD AL-MUTTALEB)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006